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BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,
March 8th, 1860.

Read and ordered to be printed.

REPORT

OF

THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

OF THE

HOUSE OF DELEGATES OF MARYLAND,

ON THE FUND APPROPRIATED FOR REPAIRS OF THE EXECUTIVE MANSION.

REPORT.

The Committee on the Contingent Fund, acting under the orders of the House, as a special committee to examine the vouchers in reference to the expenditure of the fund appropriated at the last session for repairing, furnishing and introducing gas and water pipes into the Executive mansion, respectfully report:

That they have examined said vouchers and find the sum of four thousand seven hundred and ninety-five dollars and twenty-three cents to have been expended under the supervision of the Governor, in constructing said improvements; and your committee state, that at the instance of the Governor, they visited the Executive mansion and under his polite guidance inspected the work, and so far as they are competent to judge, it appears to have been well and tastefully executed, adding much both to the comfort as well as the appearance of the mansion. Your committee will further state, that owing to the heavy cost of these improvements, the appropriation has been so far exhausted as not to leave a sum sufficient for the purchase of new furniture to replace the old, much of which is worn and unsuitable for so fine a house. The paper on the walls requires renewing. Your committee would, therefore, recommend a further appropriation for these purposes, and also recommend that the paling now in front of the mansion be replaced by an iron one, which, in the opinion of your committee, would be cheaper, as it certainly would be more ornamental. Your committee found much of the fencing around the public lot in a dilapidated condition, and unless repaired at an early day the garden and public grounds will be subject to be trespassed upon by stock. Your

committee think an appropriation of two thousand dollars would be adequate to complete these objects, and are happy to state that they are concurred with in this opinion by the Governor. The old wall, which formerly stood at the bottom of the garden, and protected that portion of the public grounds from the encroachments of the river, has been long since swept away, and the banks have fallen in, until there is imminent danger of the walls of the magazine being swept away. Your committee would recommend that something be done for their preservation. Your committee would in conclusion, urge upon the Legislature the appropriation above stated, for the accomplishment of these objects, and most especially that the Government House may be refitted for the present Governor as it has ever been for his predecessors. All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. B. F. BURGESS,
A. MEDDERS,
J. H. W. STANFORD.

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